(a) to (c) Planning Commission constituted a Special Group on Targeting ten million Employment Opportunities Per Year over the Tenth PPan Period under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member {Labour, Employment & Manpower), Planning Commission to suggest strategies and programmes in the Tenth Plan for creating employment opportunities for 10 million people a year. The Special Group has identified the labour Intensive sectors, which should be developed to create 10 million employment opportunities per year in the Tenth Plan. These sectors include agriculture, watershed development, on farm water management, small and medium industries, information technology, education and health services.

(d) Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) is scheduled to be placed forapproval by National Development Council on December 21,2002.

(e) Criteria for selection of a candidate for a job is determined by the appointing organization.

Catchy slogan for Tenth Five Year Plan

2315. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission is in search of a catchy slogan for the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the public response has been invited for the purpose and if so, the success achieved in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) No formal search has been launched by the Planning Commission for a catchy slogan for the Tenth Plan.

Financial Package for backward districts

†2316. PROF M.M. AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided any financial package for economically backward districts;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details tliereof; and

(c) *he* steps taken by tine Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Yes, sir. The Development and Reform Facility (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana) has been initiated in the current financial year. The Scheme has three components: (i) Backward Districts Initiative which is being operated on a pilot basis in the current year covering 25 districts of 12 States; (ii) Special Plan for Bihar; (iii) Special Plan for the Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa which have now been divided into eight districts, namely Kalahandi, Nuapada, Bolangir, Sonepur, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri and Rayagada.

As this is a new initiative, only Rs. 50 crore has been released so far for the Special Plan for the KBK districts for Orissa. Further release of funds under the various components of the scheme will depend on factors such as preparation of viable plans, progress of schemes, submission of progress reports, etc.

Allocation to Gujarat

2317. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount allocated for agriculture and rural development during the last three years, especially for drought prone areas of Gujarat; and

(b) the amount demanded by the State and the amount sanctioned by the Planning Commission for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The per capita allocation under DPAP in Gujarat for agriculture and rural development during the last